

WHEELER PLATS
WITH PRESIDENT
HASTEN TO CHINA,
BATTLE SHIP'S ORDER

President of New Haven Road Proclaims Unalterable Opposition to Hepburn Bill.

DECLARES IT IS UNJUST

Would Put More Power Into Hands of Commerce Commission, Already Prejudiced.

REPUDIATES STANDARD OIL

Denies Charge That New Haven Road Ever Made Discriminating Rates in Favor of Trust.

Barn, Mass., Saturday.—"The President would think less of me if I did not speak my mind for what I believe to be right, and I believe in him no less today than I did yesterday, though I disagree with him if he advocates the Hepburn bill in its present form."

In their words President Charles S. Melton, of the New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad, closed an address before the Boston Anti-Trust League in which he replied to some of the charges of railroad discrimination made against him.

He said that he had been no violator of the law on the New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad during his administration.

Dwelling upon the conditions under which the New Haven road is directed, he said:

"It is the declared policy of the company to reduce its charges for passenger and freight transportation, and regarding the rates you will have an example close at hand within a very short time in the establishment of maximum rates of two cents per mile upon our whole system."

Taking up the public charge that discrimination had been practised by the New Haven company in favor of the Standard Oil Company, Mr. Melton said:

"The case before the commission was brought at the instigation of a member of the commission who protested in every way the bringing of the same and then rendered a decision claiming there was discrimination, but admitting that the decision was ineffectual because the commission had no jurisdiction."

"Before the case was heard and while it was pending before any decision was rendered the Commissioner who presided had substantially announced his decision on two public occasions."

"From this you may perhaps understand some of the hesitation on the part of railroad officials, why they do not want any more power put in the hands of one so prejudiced, why railroad officials do not care that the position of detective, advocate, public prosecutor, judge, jury and executioner should be in the same hand."

President Melton declared that there was no discrimination by his road in favor of the Standard Oil Company, nor had there been any. Yielding, however, to the adverse public opinion excited by misrepresentation, he said that his company had ordered a pre-arranged arrangement, upon which the Standard Oil Company had been put in but one director upon the New Haven road who is in any way connected with the Standard Oil Company, and that the whole stock interest in the company owned and controlled by the members of the Standard Oil Company, directly and indirectly, is less than ten thousand shares.

"It is useless to deny that there have been abuses," Mr. Melton went on. "It is impossible to allay the distrust and suspicion they have excited. The public feels outraged and is striving to cause more damage in seeking a remedy than has been caused by the abuses."

HASTEN TO CHINA,
BATTLE SHIP'S ORDER

Rear Admiral Train Directs the Wisconsin to Sail Without Delay for Shanghai.

MANILA, Saturday.—The United States battle ship Wisconsin will sail at midnight for Shanghai to join the American fleet there, "rush" orders to that effect having been received from Rear Admiral Train.

SELLING THE OLD DIARIES.

Optimistic Dealer Does Not Lose Heart as Months Go By and the Old Stock Remains.

Chicago Inter Ocean—"I see you're stuck on a lot of diaries," said the customer to the stationer, pointing to a large pile of these records of all the years of the country. "What is more useless than an old diary after the first of February?" replied the stationer. "Not on your life! Don't worry about those. Why, we sell more diaries in July than we do in January."

"To people who go by the fiscal year instead of the calendar," the stationer said, "the diaries are going to Europe. They are going to come in here about June looking for a diary to put down what they have done in the past year. They are going to come in here about June looking for a diary to put down what they have done in the past year. They are going to come in here about June looking for a diary to put down what they have done in the past year."

LAYS EGG WHILE YOU WAIT.

ALBANY, N. Y., Saturday.—North Albany has the most accommodating hen on record. A certain boarding house proprietress in that enterprising section of the city has introduced a novelty into the hen world. She has a hen which is so well trained that it lays an egg "while you wait." This is the modus operandi, so to speak, of the hen.

"The hen comes to the back door of the house every morning, and cackles until the door is opened for it. The housewife invariably gives the hen a bit of green stuff, such as cabbage or lettuce, as a bribe. Then she shows the hen an egg, after which she puts it into the wood box. The hen goes over to the wood box, looks in and makes a great fuss before jumping in. In the course of a short time she adds to the brood of eggs by leaving a duplicate of the one placed in the box by the housewife. Right then goes to the door and cackles to lay the door opened. The housewife then walks away, apparently satisfied, and the hen has accomplished her mission. This trick is performed every morning, and up to date has lasted for three weeks."

PROMINENT FIGURES IN THE OIL INQUIRY.



H.H. ROGERS

DYNAMITER TELLS
OF UNION PLOTS

Charles Moran, Iron Worker, Declines to Plead Guilty to Charge and Confesses.

GIVES NAMES OF PRINCIPALS

Was to Go to Trial To-Morrow for Trying to Put Explosive in Bliss Building.

Interesting revelations concerning the method employed by striking ironworkers to place at a disadvantage firms with whom they were at war were made to Assistant District Attorney Train yesterday by Charles Moran, a member of the House of Representatives.

When arrested she expressed the greatest surprise, declaring she could arrange matters satisfactorily if she could see Mr. Denninger. The inmates of the place from her when the detectives announced their mission.

She was locked up in the Mercer street station and will be arraigned in police court this morning.

KEY WEST IMPORTANT BASE.

Assistant Secretary Newberry Comments on It After Inspection.

HERALD BUREAU, No. 734 FIFTH AVENUE, N. Y., WASHINGTON, D. C., Saturday.

Assistant Secretary of the Navy Newberry to-day returned from a trip of inspection of several Southern naval stations, including Pensacola, Tortugas and Key West.

He declined in advance all invitations to receptions, and in consequence his trip was strictly one of business.

He was particularly impressed with the value of Key West from the point of view that it is the last station in the United States for ships going to the island of Cuba, and could in fact be made an important base of supplies, particularly if the railway now being built to it proves a success.

SHOT A MAN FOR FIVE CENTS.

Negro Having Lost His All at Gambling Turns Professional Avenger for Small Wage.

SEAFORD, Del., Saturday.—Having lost his last cent gambling this afternoon, Walter Sanders, a negro, called one of his companions off and offered to shoot John Welch, a winner in the game, if he would give him five cents for a drink. The two men were readily made.

PANAMA GOVERNOR MAY QUIT.

Rumor on the Isthmus That Magoon Will Be Succeeded Soon by Thomas M. Cooke.

BY MEXICAN CABLE TO THE HERALD.

PANAMA, via GALVESTON, Texas, Saturday.—The rumor is prevalent here that Governor Magoon will not return and that Thomas M. Cooke, customs collector, will be made Governor and that the office of Minister will be combined with that of Consul General. Arnold Shandlin, now Consul General, is popular, and such an arrangement would suit Panama people very well.

Robbed of His Clothes.

Negro Says He Was Dragged in a Saloon and Lost \$99.

Wearing only his underclothes and socks, Ralph Walter, a young negro, of No. 239 Pacific street, Brooklyn, was found last night in West Fourth street, apparently under the influence of a narcotic.

CHARGES HOMICIDE
BY HOSPITAL ACT

Coroner Begins Rigid Inquiry Into the Transfer of a Dying Man from Roosevelt to Bellevue.

SUBPOENAS FOR SURGEONS

Errors Discovered in Report of Patient's Case and Contradictions in Statements and Diagnoses.

Charging that other hospitals often transfer to Bellevue patients about to die, Coroner Acitelli yesterday took the first steps in an investigation, the purpose of which he candidly says is to convict of homicide any surgeon or other hospital official whose transfer of a moribund person has been shown to have contributed to fatal results.

Walter Crocker, who fell off a street car at Seventh avenue and Broadway Thursday night, died in Bellevue Hospital Friday morning. The death was reported to the Coroner's office as from tuberculosis, and it was said the man had been received from a Roosevelt Hospital ambulance fourteen minutes before he died.

Coroner Acitelli says Bellevue officials told him that Crocker's case had been diagnosed there as fracture of the skull. The Roosevelt Hospital records show that Crocker was transferred to Bellevue Thursday night about midnight.

When Coroner Weston went to Bellevue to investigate, as he supposed, a death by tuberculosis, he found a man dead from fracture of the skull. An autopsy showed a clot on the brain behind a deep wound over the eye, which had been sewed up in the Roosevelt Hospital.

Coroner Acitelli held in \$2,000 bail each James Griffin, of No. 407 West Fifty-fifth street, conductor, and William Rayburn, No. 442 West Seventeenth street, motor-man of the car from which Crocker fell. He set the hearing for next Friday and announced that he would subpoena every official of the Roosevelt and Bellevue hospitals who had any connection with the case.

In his investigation Coroner Acitelli learned something of close communication between Bellevue and certain lawyers and undertakers. He says he will take official cognizance of these conditions.

Crocker was a negro, forty-eight years old, who boarded with James Johnson, negro janitor of a tenement at No. 283 West Forty-seventh street. He lived on his savings. He died about nine o'clock Friday morning, and before ten a lawyer called on the Johnsons and asked if suit against the railroad had been instituted.

TRAIN KILLS WHOLE FAMILY.

Three Generations of the Neidigs Are Crushed to Death When Reading Express Hits Wagon.

SUNBURY, Pa., Saturday.—Seven persons, representing three generations of one family, were killed to-day on the Philadelphia and Reading Railway at Haas Crossing, one mile south of this place. The dead are G. W. Neidig, sixty-three years old; Clarence Neidig, forty-one years old; Silas Neidig, fifty-six years old; Mrs. Clarence Neidig, thirty years old, and three young children.

There was to have been a family reunion to-morrow at the home of G. W. Neidig, at Augustville, and the latter had driven to the home of his sons to convey the party. At Haas Crossing the Pennsylvania Railroad and the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad are close together. A curve renders one invisible from the other. The wagon had crossed the Pennsylvania Railroad tracks and had just reached the Reading tracks when an express train dashed into the vehicle.

CLUB RE-ELECTS HAMILTON.

Albany Organization Makes Him Its President by Large Vote.

[SPECIAL DESPATCH TO THE HERALD.]

ALBANY, N. Y., Saturday.—Andrew Hamilton's friends in this city gave him a testimonial of their esteem to-night in re-electing him to the presidency of the Albany Club for the sixth term. There was no opposition, and the vote was fifty per cent greater than that of last year.

Mr. Hamilton arrived at the club about ten o'clock, and was informally greeted by the members, among whom were Mayor Gaus and other city officials and men prominent in business and professional life. He made no speech, but gave repeated expressions of his gratitude. Several legislators are non-resident members, but as such they could not vote. The club is one of the most prominent social organizations of the city.

2 OF 2 PRESIDENTS
QUIT THE MUTUAL

Dr. Walter R. Gillette and Robert A. Grannis to Hand in Resignations.

ONE IMPLICATES OTHER

Physician Declares He Consulted His Fellow Official in the Matter of Campaign Contributions.

DRAWN INTO M'CURDY SUITS

Executive Was the Medical Adviser to the Life Company President and Got His Place Through Professional Services.

Dr. Walter R. Gillette and Robert A. Grannis, vice president of the Mutual Life Insurance Company, are about to detach themselves from official connection with the Mutual. Their resignations are written and will be offered next week.

Within the next few days more of the eight suits to be brought against the McCurdy, their associates and beneficiaries will be prepared. Mr. Peabody, the present president, would not say yesterday that one, at least, of the suits for restitution money would involve Dr. Gillette.

Since it appears in the complaint already served upon Richard A. McCurdy's attorneys that he is to be held responsible for the alleged waste of more than \$2,000,000 of company money through unfaithfulness and neglect, and as the stated causes of action include disbursements, the authorization of which Dr. Gillette initiated, his resignation is regarded as "imminent."

There are to be two actions, one in law and one in equity, against Robert B. McCurdy, the former president's son; Louis Thebaud, son-in-law, and C. H. Raymond, of the agency firm which profited highly after Mr. McCurdy, the president, at an alleged gain of \$25,000, reinsured the policy holders of the company of which Raymond had been the head.

Others will be against the two McCurdys, father and son, as co-defendants; against C. H. Raymond and Robert B. McCurdy, as co-defendants. What the other two are remains to be disclosed, but one is expected to involve Dr. Gillette, who passed the vouchers for the expenditures for campaign contributions and "legal expenses."

Dr. Gillette some years ago was the McCurdy family physician. Mrs. McCurdy fell ill. Consultants, so the story runs, intimated that it was a doubtful case, but Dr. Gillette said he could pull her through.

Thereupon Richard A. McCurdy, then president of the Mutual, said that if Dr. Gillette would save the life of Mrs. McCurdy he would repay him by making him general manager of the Mutual.

Mrs. McCurdy was saved. Dr. Gillette became medical examiner, then medical director, then general manager, and finally a vice president of the Mutual. When called by Mr. Hughes before the Armstrong investigating committee Dr. Gillette said that he had executed various contracts with C. H. Raymond on his own initiative without bringing the matter before any special committee.

Dr. Gillette's "W. E. G." to vouchers for "these matters" giving an explanation that "these matters were wholly in the hands of Mr. Short, general solicitor, now dead," and that in "great corporate interests there are necessarily certain transactions which are done in a confidential way."

Mr. Hughes asked: "What did you do to ascertain what the confidential purposes were?" and Dr. Gillette answered: "Nothing. I simply wanted to know if it were necessary and then signed the vouchers. When called before the Senate Committee, I was told that as much as \$100,000 yearly was turned over in this manner on his authorization and without his knowledge as a special committee."

The general solicitor "could get \$25,000 whenever he pleased," Mr. Hughes brought out. Dr. Gillette said that he knew of the fact that annual reports showed that the Mutual's "legal expenses" were a large item, but that he could not recall an instance of a report of disbursements, and he never had asked for one.

He testified that in 1904 the company had about \$200,000 in the National Campaign Committee, and understood it was charged to "legal expenses." In 1905 he was told that the National Campaign Committee was the McKinley campaign, and in 1906 the amount was \$15,000, though it might have been more. He said he had consulted with George H. Grannis.

HIS SON AN OFFICIAL.

Dr. Gillette declared he was not familiar with the fact that his brother-in-law had been awarded special advantages in the company contracts. His son, Abraham Gillette, was a member of the Mutual, and put in charge of the Department of Medical Supervision. He had charge, he testified, of the Andrew Hamilton of the Mutual, and of the printing, stationery and luncheon expenses, which are to figure in the forthcoming additional suits.

By way of informal rejoinder to these suits the McCurdy suits it was divulged yesterday that the McCurdy family had not been going on with the syndicate transactions of subsidiary companies. Some might not have been direct participants in the syndicate, but it was asserted that they had bought stock in these companies, and received the accruing gains.

There was the basis of the published report yesterday that Charles A. Peabody, the present president, would resign by April 1. Dr. Gillette declared that he had no knowledge of any such report.

"There is not a word of truth in the report that I intend to resign. The man who made the report was a liar when he wrote it. It was done for a special purpose, and I am surprised that reputable evening papers should have published it without even trying to find out from me whether it was true or not."

COMMITTEE WORKING AHEAD.

There are no dissensions, it was said, in the Trustee's investigating committee, which, with Joseph H. Choate as counsel, instituted the present suits and sent out the questions to trustees regarding their interests in outside matters of the company. The committee, it was affirmed, were going on harmoniously with the movements they had determined were for the best interests of the company.

A. C. Fields, the Albany agent, who was called upon by the Armstrong committee for his testimony, was last heard from in Texas. He is in communication with the Mutual, and is looking to furnish some information for the McCurdy defense as Andrew Hamilton furnished to the McCurdy defense concerning the New York Life "legal expenses."

Paul Morton, president of the Equitable, lately sent out a letter designed to meet the outbreak of policy holders. In the last year nearly \$50,000,000 of insurance had been allowed to lapse and policies to be forfeited. The company had been burned for cash, while only \$2,077,399 had been exchanged for paid up insurance.

HADLEY TO EXPOSE
SECRET LETTERS
OF STANDARD OIL

Missouri Attorney Has Copies of the Trust's Important Correspondence.

DEMANDS COMPANY
PRODUCE ORIGINALS

Telltale Documents Alleged To Have Been Obtained From Waters-Pierce Employee.

COMPLETE CHANGE OF FRONT

Lawyers for H. H. Rogers and Others Admit Standard's Stock Ownership in "Independent" Concerns.

Following a concession on the part of the attorneys for the Standard Oil Company that all of the companies operating in Missouri, two of which have purported to be independent, are owned outright or controlled by the Standard Oil Company of New Jersey, Attorney General Hadley yesterday hurled a new bombshell into the ranks of the Standard lawyers by demanding the production of a large number of letters sent from the offices of the Waters-Pierce Oil Company, in Missouri, to the Standard offices at No. 26 Broadway.

Mr. Hadley has copies of this correspondence, which he will produce when the hearing is resumed to-morrow morning if his demand for the original letters is not complied with. A refusal to produce the letters will, he declares, make permissible the introduction of the copies as secondary evidence.

These letters will, the Attorney General asserts, prove the fact of operation of the Waters-Pierce company from No. 26 Broadway, and will go far toward proving a community of interest between the Standard Oil Company of Indiana, the Waters-Pierce Oil Company and the Republic Oil Company, which are accused of having combined to control the oil industry of the State of Missouri in violation of its anti-trust laws.

As a penalty Attorney General Hadley will seek to exclude all three companies from operations in the State. The case must first go to the Supreme Court of Missouri, and thence to the United States Supreme Court, however, for final disposition before any such action will be possible of enforcement.

Precisely how he obtained the copies of the correspondence which he considers so important Mr. Hadley declined to say, but he acknowledged that it was obtained through somebody in the employ of the Waters-Pierce company. It consists chiefly of reports to the Standard office of operations of the Waters-Pierce company in the sale of oil in Missouri and elsewhere. It is asserted, the contention that the Waters-Pierce company is a branch of the Standard Oil Company.

STANDARD'S CHANGE OF FRONT.

It had not been determined last night whether the original letters would be produced to-morrow in compliance with the Attorney General's demand, but it is generally believed that the demand will be complied with. The change of front on the part of the Standard forces was marked the first of the Standard's decision against the Missouri court's decision against it, that it would appear to be a reversal of the conditions of yesterday if the original correspondence should now be withheld.

From the moment when Frank Hagerman, one of the attorneys for the Standard, waved a flag of truce at the opening of the hearing, which was continued at No. 67 Wall street, until H. H. Rogers and William G. Rockefeller had been excused from further testimony at the present time, the proceedings were utterly lacking in the sensational features which marked the first hearings in New York. Even the use of testimony by the tedious and noisy process of typewriting was dispensed with while Mr. Rockefeller was on the stand, and throughout the examination not a single objection was raised to Mr. Hadley's questions by the Standard legal forces.

"I wish to say, for the benefit of the Commissioner and the opposing counsel," was the opening announcement of Frank Hagerman, "that when witnesses refused to answer certain questions in regard to stock ownership at the previous hearing, on advice of counsel, it was believed they were within their rights. Since that time it has been determined by the courts of Missouri that we were wrong, and that General Hadley was right. Consequently, we are now prepared to answer such questions now."

"I will call Mr. Rogers," said Mr. Hadley. A moment later the chief witness in the inquiry walked from an adjoining room to the witness chair. He looked neither to the right nor the left and had no nod of greeting to the lawyers, but bowed to Commissioner Sanborn as he took his seat.

In front of him sat the young woman who holds the world's record for speed and accuracy of a typewriter. To the right were stenographers and reporters; to the left sat the oil company's attorneys, former Judge H. S. Priest, John D. Johnson and Frank Hagerman, of Missouri; Alfred D. Eddy, of Chicago, and William W. Rowe, of this city. Directly in front of Mr. Rogers stood the young Attorney General of Missouri, with his assistant, Rush Lake, and his New York representative, Henry Wollman, beside him. In the rear of the room were half a hundred spectators, among them William G. Rockefeller.

ROGERS' MANNER CHANGED.

"Are you a stockholder in the Standard Oil Company of Indiana?" was the first question put to Mr. Rogers by Mr. Hadley, without any preliminary prying by the opposing counsel. This was one of the questions which Mr. Rogers formerly declined to answer "on the advice of counsel."

"I am," was Mr. Rogers' reply, given in a low voice, but without hesitation. He moved his chair several feet forward until he was close to the young woman at the typewriter and had the following questions repeated to him by her before he made reply.

Mr. Rogers' testimony, so encouraging to Mr. Hadley in the first response, was less satisfactory to the Attorney General as the examination proceeded. When he was asked as to his knowledge of the conditions